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C O N F I D E N T I A L SANAA 000571

SIPDIS

TERREP

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TAGS: [PTER](#) [ASEC](#) [CASC](#) [YM](#)

SUBJECT: YEMEN: HUNT OIL SHOOTINGS - MARCH 21 UPDATE

REF: SANAA 520

Classified By: DCM: AGMISENHEIMER FOR REASONS 1.5 (B) AND (D)

1. (C) The U.S. investigative team from Embassy Sanaa is continuing to collect evidence regarding the March 18 shootings of Hunt Oil employees in Marib (refel and previous). Security circumstances permitting, the team is planning an additional visit to Marib in the near future to collect additional evidence and attempt to interview additional witnesses.

2. (C) Following is a March 20 report prepared by the team on its efforts thus far.

Begin Text: From 18 to 19 Mar 03, an U.S. Embassy Sanaa, a investigative team comprised of FBI and FPD personnel traveled to Yemen Hunt Oil Company and the scene of the 18 Mar 03 shooting at Rig 226, approximately 70 KM East of Marib, Yemen.

- Investigative team conducted preliminary investigative activity to ascertain the facts and circumstances surrounding the shooting incident, which resulted in the death of one U.S. citizen, a Canadian citizen, a Yemeni citizen and the critical wounding of another Canadian citizen. The assailant allegedly committed suicide at the scene.

- On 18 Mar 03, investigative team was met by high ranking Yemeni law enforcement and military Marib government officials as well as Yemen Hunt Oil Company management personnel.

- Yemeni government and law enforcement personnel provided the investigative team with access to witnesses, crime scenes and limited access to evidence collected by Yemeni investigators. All investigative activity, to include all witness interviews were conducted in the presence of large numbers of high ranking Yemeni government officials.

- Crime scenes included a double trailer/temporary building utilized as office space, which was the alleged location where three individuals were shot and an outside scene, where allegedly another individual was shot and where the shooter allegedly committed suicide.

- Investigators were granted access to and examined the shooter's corpse at the Military Hospital in Marib, Yemen. A cursory examination of the corpse revealed one gunshot wound (entry wound) to the mid section and an apparent posterior exit wound. Additionally, a large abrasion was noted on the left rear cranium. Investigators were granted permission to view the clothing worn by the shooter.

- Information obtained from crime scene searches and witness interviews to date disclosed the following:

- o On 18 Mar 03, at approximately 11:45 hrs, a Yemeni carpenter employee of Nabors Drilling International Limited, allegedly shot two Canadians, a U.S. citizen and a Yemeni national, then allegedly shot and killed himself

- o One of the Canadian victims survived the shooting and is currently being treated for gunshot wounds to abdomen.

- o With the exception of the U.S. citizen, who was employed by Yemen Hunt Oil Company, all others involved in the incident were Nabors employees.

- o Currently motivation of the shooter is unknown. Investigation is ongoing. End text.

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